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Art Unit 2645

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Amendments to Specifications

I claim the priority of provisional patent application 60/263,506 filed on 01/24/2001; this application is incorporated by reference in its entirety.

Description Of Illustrations

In Illustration 1, there is a User (Step 1) contracting a Central Site (Step 3) via a communication network (Step 2). The Central Site will accept inputted instruction in the form of DTMF tones transmitted over a communication network. The Central Site will process and store the data at the Central Site (Step 4). The Central Site will then forward the process input from the User to a remote location (Illustration 1, item 200) over a communication network (Step 5 and Step 6). At the Remote location the EA-Router (AKA Device at Remote location) will accept and evaluate the information from the Central Site. If a valid authorization code is detected, the EA-Router will forward the Instructions from the Central Site to the targeted appliance (VCR) by Infrared signals.

In Illustration 2, there is a User (Step 1) contracting a Central Site (Step 3) via a communication network (Step 2). The Central Site will accept inputted instruction in the form of DTMF tones transmitted over a communication network. The Central Site will process and store the data at the Central Site (Step 4). The Central Site will then forward the process input from the User to a remote location (Illustration 2, item 200) over a communication network (Step 5 and Step 6). At the Remote location the EA-Router (AKA Device at Remote location) will accept and evaluate the information from the Central Site. If a valid authorization code is detected the EA-Router will forward the Instructions from the Central Site by transmitting electrical signals over a wire directly to the targeted appliance (VCR).

In Illustration 3, there is a User (Step 1) contracting a Central Site (Step 3) via a communication network (Step 2). The Central Site will accept inputted instruction in the form of DTMF tones transmitted over a communication network. The Central Site will process and store the data at the Central Site (Step 4). The Central Site will then forward the process input from the User to a remote location (Illustration 3, item 200) over a communication network (Step 5 and Step 6). At the Remote location the EA-Router (AKA Device at Remote location) will accept and evaluate the information from the Central Site. If a valid authorization code is detected, the EA-Router will forward the Instructions from the Central Site to the targeted appliance (VCR) by Audio, Infrared, Ultra-Violet, RF, Electrical Signals, or Blue Tooth Technology.

In the above three illustration of the Applicant's invention, there is a distinct location and remote location for the User inputting instructions, the Central Site collecting and processing the Instructions, and the remote location where the targeted device/appliance is located. This is a key component of the Applicant's invention and is lacking in Mankovitz's patent. Therefore, Mankovitz's patent can not be said to anticipate the Applicant's invention: 35 USC 102 fails.

In **Illustration 4A**, (Mankovitz, Roy J. US 5,915,026 figure 1) the User (at location "1") of Mankovitz's invention contacts an "Assistant Programmer" at a remote site (location "2", aka Figure 1, Item 40) via a telephone call over a telephone network. The "Assistant Programmer" is a person sitting at a computer terminal at location "2" (Col. 2, line 20 – line 29). From this terminal the "Assistant Programmer" can pull up instructions codes for a variety of appliance, interpret and modify the codes meet the needs of the Caller. The "Assistant Programmer" using a computer collects information from the

Caller, the "Assistance Programmer" then select the appropriate set of instruction codes to perform the desired task of the Caller at location "1", the "Assistant Programmer" then passes the instructions to the Caller's location (location "2") via the telephone. The Caller will direct the incoming instructions to the desired targeted device. The abovementioned interactions takes place in real time and require two-way communication between the Caller and the "Assistant Programmer".

In **Illustration 4B**, is a simplified version of **Illustration 4A** showing that there are only two locations involved in Mankovitz's patent. Mankovitz's patent teaches on the User and the targeted appliance being situated at the same location (i.e. Location "1" in Figure 4B). The Remote Site where the "Assistance Programmer" and the computer is located is labeled Location "2" in Figure 4B. The two locations are linked by telephone via a standard telephone communication network, denoted as "PSTN". There is no mention of a third or remote input terminal in Mankovitz's patent. In fact, the functionality of the patent preclude a third site, in the fact that the caller may be required to position the phone next to the device that is to be programmed, or a programming module (Figure 1, Item 20). Mankovitz's patent also teaches on the User being involve in programming activities of a targeted appliance (Figure 8, Item 78 & 80). In Mankovitz's patent the Consumer's location is integral to programming processes (Col. 6, line 23 – line 43 & Figure 8, Item 80). The Consumer must be located at the same site as the Appliance that is to be programmed. This is a major difference between the Applicant's invention and Mankovitz's invention.